

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-05 H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01  
SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 HA-05 AID-05 /109 W  
-----030644 240700Z /11

R 231804Z JUN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1016  
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA  
AMEMBASSY KINSHASA  
AMEMBASSY LAGOS  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USINT HAVANA  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E. O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PDIP, NI, MX  
SUBJECT: NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR OLUMJIME JALAOSO COMMENTS ON  
AFRICAN PROBLEMS

1. FOLLOWING HIS PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS TO PRESIDENT LOPEZ PORTILLO ON JUNE 20, AMBASSADOR JALAOSO, WHO IS ALSO ACCREDITED IN WASHINGTON, DISCUSSED AFRICAN EVENTS WITH THE PRESS. TOUCHING ON THE THEME OF AFRICAN SOLUTIONS TO AFRICAN PROBLEMS HE SAID "WE HAVE TOLD THE GREAT POWERS TO LEAVE US TO SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS IN AN AFRICAN MANNER' BUT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWING US TO DO THAT AND YOU CAN ALREADY SEE WHAT IS OCCURRING."

2. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION AS TO WHETHER AFRICA COULD LIVE WITH IDEOLOGICAL PLURALISM, AMB. JALAOSO REPLIED, "I BELIEVE THAT IS A QUESTION THAT IS FREQUENTLY ASKED BECAUSE IT IS ASSUMED THAT AFRICANS CANNOT SOLVE THEIR OWN

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PROBLEMS. IT IS ALSO ASSUMED THAT WE ARE IMMATURE AND CANNOT DECIDE FOR OURSELVES HOW TO HANDLE OUR OWN COUNTRIES WITHOUT FALLING INTO ONE IDEOLOGICAL CAMP OR ANOTHER. THE MAJORITY OF AFRICAN COUNTRIES ARE NATIONALISTIC; THEY ARE INTERESTED IN DEVELOPING THEMSELVES; THEY ARE MOST INTERESTED IN RAISING THE STANDARD OF LIVING OF THEIR PEOPLE."

3. ON THE SUBJECT OF OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE HE SAID "THE COUNTRIES THAT CANNOT DEFEND THEMSELVES LOOK FOR OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE; BUT IT IS AN ACT OF THEIR OWN WILL. WE CANNOT SAY WHAT THEY SHOULD DO, BUT THIS DOES NOT MEAN THAT THEY ARE DIRECTED FROM MEXICO, HAVANA, WASHINGTON OR PARIS."

4. ON THE QUESTION OF ENDING COLONIALISM AND APARTHEID IN SOUTHERN AFRICA, HE NOTED THAT NIGERIA WAS ACTIVELY WORKING WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS TO SOLVE THESE PROBLEMS, BUT IF THISDAY WERE NOT SUCCESSFUL THERE THEY WOULD FIGHT IF NECESSARY.

5. COMMENT: AMB. JALAO'S SUBSTANTIVE REMARKS TO THE PRESS AND THE COVERAGE THEY RECEIVED ARE NOT THE NORM FOR CREDENTIAL PRESENTATIONS IN MEXICO CITY. (HE WAS COVERED IN A CONSERVATIVE AS WELL AS A LEFTIST DAILY). THE COVERAGE HE RECEIVED IS PARTICULARLY RARE SINCE HIS REMARKS DID NOT TOUCH ON AREAS OF VITAL INTEREST TO MEXICO OR WESTERN HEMISPHERE ISSUES.

6. DECLASSIFY UPON RECEIPT. THOMPSON

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CREDENTIALS PRESENTATION, AMBASSADORS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR OLUMJIME JALAOSO COMMENTS ON AFRICAN PROBLEMS  
**TAGS:** PDIP, NI, MX, XA, (JALAOSO, OLUMJIME)  
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